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LB 806, 1219

We're not talking about extra programs. We're talking about core curriculums that there simply will not be funding. As was mentioned, there has to be some kind of transitional period. Schools simply were not able to react that quickly to the passage of LB 806, and that's why I rise also in opposition to Senator Beutler's amendment. They do need more than one year. I can just give the example of my school in my local community, Bradshaw, that is consolidating or has consolidated with Henderson. It didn't happen overnight. They actually worked three, four years together in sharing programs. And I think a good point has been made throughout some of the other discussion that money is not always saved by consolidation. I think each instance, each school district has to assess and do their feasibility studies to see what the effect might be. Again, this is not taking any money from any other school. These funds are going to come from the Cash Reserve Fund. And I then do rise in support of Senator Coordsen's amendment and in opposition to Senator Beutler's. Thank you.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. The Chair recognizes Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am rising in support of the Beutler amendment because I believe that that is what we are trying to...the underlying thing that we are trying to accomplish with 1219. But I do have some questions that I'd like to pose to Senator Bohlke. I guess that she would be the best person to address them to about the Coordsen amendment. Senator Bohlke, would you yield?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes.

SENATOR BROWN: All the school districts have had the same amount of time to prepare for the effects of 1114. Is that not true?

SENATOR BOHLKE: That would be correct.

SENATOR BROWN: And so can you tell me how, what number of districts have already voted to exceed the levy limits?

SENATOR BOHLKE: I'm not sure of the exact count. I know this